

## SULLIVAN WAS NOT TO BLAME, SAYS EGLOFF

### HALF-AND-HALF PLAN URGED ON CONGRESS BY BOARD OF TRADE

Senate Subcommittee On District Bill Given Historic Reasons For Present System of Paying District Expenses—Gas Merger Arguments Also Made.

That the half-and-half principle should be preserved inviolate, that the section of the District bill relative to turning unused District revenues into the general fund of the Treasury should be stricken out, that Congress should appropriate its share for needed local improvements and facilities, and that, if the half-and-half plan is ever departed from, it should be done with care and deliberation, after the fullest consideration of Congress, were statements made to the Senate subcommittee in charge of the District appropriations bill by speakers representing the Washington Board of Trade. They were Col. George Truesdell, H. B. F. Macfarland, Aldis B. Browne, and Ralph P. Barnard.

The argument of Mr. Macfarland for the half-and-half principle was exhaustive. He spoke from the national standpoint and told of the early difficulties of Congress at Philadelphia and Princeton and showed that it was clearly intended that the responsibility for the government of the District should rest on Congress.

#### ON "THE ORGANIC ACT."

In 1800 there were, he said, in Washington proper, only the nineteen farmers who had owned the land and their wives and children. It was absurd, Mr. Macfarland said, to suppose there was any thought on the part of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and other leaders of that time at the burden of the Government here should fall on them.

From this, Mr. Macfarland recounted the history of the period of neglect, from 1800 to 1850, when the full consideration by Congress, the organic act, "the constitution of the District," was adopted.

He said the national interests demanded if changed, it should be done after the same thorough consideration as was exercised in 1800.

The citizens are paying adequate taxes, said Mr. Macfarland. He dwelt on the fact that the people here pay the same national taxes, such as internal revenue and the like, and that the assessment rate and the tax levied by the District are above the average for municipalities of the United States.

Colonel Truesdell treated the half-and-half plan from the local standpoint. He took the ground that it is indispensable for the best interests of the people that they know that they can depend on in the way of taxation. Continued change and uncertainty, he pointed out, put every owner and property owner in an impossible situation.

The hearings before the subcommittee ended this afternoon.

The subcommittee also heard President Howard S. Reindeer of the Washington Gas Light Company, and Benjamin S. Minor in favor of the proposed amendment to the District Organic Act.

Walter Clephane asked for an appropriation for a boy's supervisor at the district house.

The President's illness today prevented a conference between Attorney-General McReynolds and himself regarding a settlement of the controversy growing out of the awards for property needed by the government in developing the proposed Union Station.

The Attorney General is thought to be of the opinion that there is no objection to the approval of the award for the small property-owners, leaving the award to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for further investigation.

The railroad is said to have suggested this plan.

**Wife of Congressman Sherwood Is Near Death**

Mrs. Kate Brownlee Sherwood, wife of Congressman Isaac R. Sherwood of Ohio, is in a dying condition at her apartments in the Congress Hall Hotel today. Mrs. Sherwood, known as "The Goddess of the Congressional Circle," suffered another stroke of paralysis and hope for her recovery practically as been abandoned by Mr. Sherwood and attending physicians.

### PLANTIFF RESTS IN SUIT AGAINST GORE FOR \$50,000

Senator's Counsel Surprised by Sudden Move of Attorneys For Mrs. Bond.

STAR WITNESS IS NOT RECALLED TO STAND

Defense Begins Its Fight to Discredit Testimony of Alleged Assault Here.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Minnie E. Bond's attorneys today unexpectedly rested their case in her \$50,000 damage suit against Senator T. P. Gore. Surprised, the attorneys for Gore obtained a brief recess while they planned their defense.

The testimony offered in behalf of the plaintiff today was distinctly tame after the sensational statements that characterized the testimony of Mrs. Bond and her witnesses yesterday. It was expected that Thaddeus E. Robertson, the Oklahoma City attorney, who was an eye-witness to the alleged assault that formed the basis of the suit, would be recalled for cross-examination. This was not done. Robertson had admitted on the stand that he had planned to "get the blind double-crossed."

It was Robertson who first broke into the room in which the assault was alleged to have been made. He conducted the Senator to the elevator in the Winston Hotel, he testified.

J. Graves Leeper, Oklahoma City lumberman, the first witness, was recalled to testify under cross-examination that Mrs. Bond attended the Skirvin Hotel banquet in January, 1911, when Bond's appointment was brought to Senator Gore, but Bond himself did not appear. Deputy Sheriff L. A. Ezell, of Oklahoma county, testified that he had difficulty procuring service on Senator Gore when the Bond suit was filed in October, 1912. He was unable to get access to the inner room of the Gore suite at the Skirvin from 8:30 to 9 p. m., then he obtained the assistance of Sheriff M. C. Simon, and both reached the Senator with the summons.

E. A. Ballinger, Mrs. Bond's father, testified that his daughter had been in a prostrated condition since March, 1912. Howard M. Kay, Mrs. Gore's brother, and Senate messenger, testified that he refused to tell what Senator Gore said of the Winston Hotel Occurrence, according to his deposition, read into the record by Attorney Ross N. Lillard for the plaintiff.

Kay said he turned Senator Gore over to Mrs. Bond at the Winston and conducted him away later, after T. E. Robertson brought him down in the elevator.

"A trifle unusual," was the way Kay characterized Senator Gore's actions when leaving the hotel.

Mrs. Ballinger said Mrs. Bond, her daughter, had been extremely nervous and "awfully mortified" since the hotel incident.

Mrs. Bond's lawyers then announced that the plaintiff rested.

After the recess Dr. J. H. Eupr, president of the Jackson Club, was recalled to testify that he had been called to the scene of the incident to assist in the removal of the Senator's body.

He admitted that he had been called to the scene of the incident to assist in the removal of the Senator's body.

Dr. Eupr's statement that he had considered the Bond case a "frame-up" from the start was stricken from the record.

**Filipinos Make Demand For Autonomy Today**

MANILA, Feb. 12.—Autonomy for the Philippines as a preliminary step toward ultimate freedom will be asked by the Filipinos at the hands of the president of the United States today.

The convention of the Progressive party, or Philippine Progressive party, today unanimously adopted a resolution, asking the president to establish an autonomous government in the islands under a protectorate, until the native government is able to repel foreign invasion. They absolute independence will be asked.

**Patrick McGee Victim Of Illuminating Gas**

Asphyxiated by illuminating gas, Patrick McGee, sixty-eight years old, was found dead this morning at his home, 125 Massachusetts avenue north-west. Gas was escaping from a rubber tube connected with a gasolene lamp, which was formerly employed by the gas company.

### Drops Her Lawyers And Wins Own Case Before Circuit Court



MISS GLADYS E. KNORR.

### PRALL WIDOW GETS NEW TRIAL IN SUIT

Seeks Ejectment of Relatives From \$300,000 Property on Avenue of Presidents.

Arguing her own case after she had dismissed half a dozen attorneys, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Prall, widow of William E. Prall, Jr., inventor of a number of valuable mechanical devices, won a material point today before Justice Barnard, presiding in Circuit Court, No. 1, who granted her a new trial in her ejectment suit involving the title to property on the Avenue of the Presidents, between I and K streets, valued at more than \$300,000.

Mrs. Prall is seeking possession of the estate of her husband's father, and defending the litigation are Miss Jennie M. Prall, Mrs. Annie M. Fahnstock, and Mrs. Emma Prall Knorr, daughters of the elder Prall, and Miss Gladys E. Knorr, his granddaughter.

For more than ten years, Mrs. Prall has been a plaintiff in her efforts to obtain a satisfactory settlement, and for more than two years she has acted as her own attorney. Her litigation resulted in her commitment to the Government Hospital for the Insane, pending a hearing as to her mental condition, but a jury adjudged her sound of mind and she immediately resumed her legal struggle for title to the estate.

Recently dismissing Mrs. Prall's suit to eject the other heirs from the premises at 916-918 Avenue of the Presidents, but she was unimpaired today she argued her own motion for a new trial, and when it developed that the agreement would be reached on a bill of exception for the estate, Mrs. Prall has not only pressed her claims in the courts but has appealed also to members of Congress and former Presidents Roosevelt and Taft for relief.

**Bryan Signs Arbitration Pact With Switzerland**

Secretary of State Bryan signed the eleven arbitration treaty, that with Switzerland, today. Dr. Paul Ritter, minister from Switzerland, represented his country. A similar treaty with Costa Rica will be signed before night.

**Alleged Embezzler Jailed.**

Thurman M. Bickler, an electrician, twenty-five years old, was arrested today by Detectives Herman and Cornwell as a fugitive from justice. The police said he is wanted in Atlantic City in connection with the alleged embezzlement of \$50,000.

**Bryan Will Lecture to Authors of New York**

Secretary of State Bryan will leave Washington tonight to speak on "The Writer with a Message" before the Authors' Club of New York tomorrow night.

### REAL SNOWSTORM HITS WASHINGTON; FIRST SINCE 1911

Weather Bureau Predicts That Fall Will Continue During the Night.

MERCURY HOVERS ABOUT TEN DEGREES ABOVE

Transportation Companies Are Making Preparations to Battle a Heavy Fall.

Washington today finds itself in the clutches of what promises to be the first real snowstorm the city has seen since the winter of 1911.

For approximately four hours the air has been filled with the falling flakes. The United States Weather Bureau this afternoon predicted that this will continue throughout the afternoon and through the greater part of the night.

It is beginning to look as if a white mantle which would meet the approval of even a Bostonian, who thinks the Hub City the only one in which "regular" snowfalls occur, will result from today's storm.

A Heavy Snowfall.

Reports from the Ohio valley States today tell of a heavy fall of snow for the last twenty-four hours. The storm extends into southern New England, and before morning the entire South Atlantic States should be covered.

The forecast for this afternoon and tonight is: For Northern New England—Fair and not quite so cold tonight; Saturday—increasing clouds, probably snow, moderate east winds.

For Southern New England—Increasing clouds, probably snow, moderate east winds. For Eastern New York—Fair and not quite so cold tonight; Saturday—increasing clouds, probably snow, moderate east winds.

For Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware—Snow and not quite so cold tonight; Saturday—increasing clouds, probably snow, moderate east winds.

For the District of Columbia and Maryland—Snow and not quite so cold tonight and Saturday; moderate north-east winds, becoming southeast.

For Virginia—Snow and not quite so cold tonight and Saturday; moderate to brisk east winds.

Hardly enough real cold weather has visited Washington yet to make skating possible. The tidal basin has a thin coat of ice. This, however, is not strong enough to bear much weight. With the promised warmer temperature for tonight the hopes of youthful Washington for skating carnivals and such things will go a glimmering.

**Traffic Little Affected**

The snow storm of today has not had time to do much damage to traffic. Trains coming into Union Station from the North and East are generally on time. The telegraph and telephone companies report no trouble from the snow. All are making provisions for a heavy fall, however.

Thermometers at the Weather Bureau noon showed the mercury registering 11 degrees, or just two degrees warmer than that registered on the coldest day of the winter of 1911. At midnight the mercury was at the 12 degree mark. It dropped to 11 degrees at 2 a. m., and at 3 o'clock had reached the lowest point of the present cold period, 10 degrees, 10 degrees.

It hovered at 10 degrees until 7 o'clock. By 11 o'clock it had risen to 11 degrees, and at 12 o'clock to 12 degrees. The mercury at 1 o'clock was at 11 degrees and at 2 o'clock at 12 degrees. It remained until after 1:30 o'clock this afternoon.

It is Friday the 13th, but no one seems to be worrying over it. Despite the fact that the streets are slippery and the falling snow making it trouble some for both man and beast, practically no accidents have been reported to Police Headquarters. It may be that the populace is not experimenting with superstition, and is being unusually careful because of the day and date.

**Ask Aid For City Poor.**

Many children in Washington are suffering in need of clothing, according to members of the Sunshine Society of Washington, which has issued an urgent call for donations.

The condition of the poor has been intensified within the last twenty-four hours by the snowfall, and the organization is making every effort to meet the demands that have been placed on it.

Mrs. Eliza S. Knight, of 1711 North Capitol street, who is receiving contributions, says there are hundreds of children and adults who are forced to endure great privation and suffering during every cold period.

### CAPTAIN SAYS WAGNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NEAR FIRE TRAGEDY

Witness Before Trial Board Declares Chief Engineer Should Have Located Missing Men of No. 6 Company When He Assumed Command of Blaze in Ten-Cent Store Building.

Responsibility for the continued presence of five men of No. 6 Engine Company in the burning Ten Cent Store until the crash that imprisoned them came, and failure to get them out immediately, was placed squarely up to Chief Wagner in the testimony of Capt. Henry Egloff, of No. 13 Engine Company. The captain was testifying today in the trial of Deputy Chief Andrew J. Sullivan, who is facing charges of negligence and inefficiency.

Captain Egloff declared there were no rules under which Sullivan should have reported the sending of the men in the building to the chief. He declared further it was the custom for the chief or superior officer coming on the fire scene to locate the companies for himself. He said the chief should locate the companies, particularly those out of sight.

He also testified he saw the hose line of No. 6 running into the building when he arrived and followed it. He believed, he said, it was good fire management to send the men in where Chief Sullivan had sent them, and that there was no suspicion of danger until the crash came.

**PROCTOR STILL BLAMES DEPUTY.**

Battalion Chief Proctor, who followed Captain Egloff, repeated insistently his former statement, that the sending of men into the building and permitting them to be "caught like rats to perish," was criminal negligence.

Corporation Counsel Syme told him that he wanted to be eminently fair to every man who testified in the case, and offered opportunity to change any statement made in the secret inquiry in the light of further knowledge or facts.

He sought many angles on Chief Proctor's statement of criminal neglect, and the battalion chief was finally recorded as holding the belief that criminal neglect pertained on the part of Sullivan, but that the men were permitted to lie like rats to perish with nothing done for them.

The battalion chief explained his statement in the secret inquiry that he "bore no malice," by saying that there were "things among us chiefs that are not very pleasant, and I did not want any of them to think that I wanted to injure them."

**Crocker a Spectator.**

One of the most interested spectators at the hearing was former Fire Chief Edward F. Crocker, of New York, who will appear as a witness for Chief Sullivan this afternoon. He has followed the Sullivan case for some time, and came here from New York to testify for Sullivan, whom he has known for years. He aided the drawing of Sullivan's defense.

According to the great crowding of the board room in the Municipal Building yesterday, by friends of Chief Sullivan, additional chairs were placed today, but these were insured to accommodate the spectators. The room was unusually quiet, except at one point in the testimony of Chief Proctor, when he was asked by Mr. Syme whether or not his declaration of criminal negligence was not predicated on the circumstance that the building was on fire. This brought the only outburst of the trial that required restoration of order.

Fire Chief August Enrich of the Baltimore Department, will appear as a witness for Sullivan late this afternoon.

**Array of Attorneys.**

There was the same array of attorneys and interested spectators crowding the board room of the Municipal Building when the public hearing on charges against Deputy Chief Sullivan was resumed by the trial board at 10 o'clock this morning.

Charles W. Darr and Daniel W. (Continued on Sixth Page.)

**IN CONGRESS TODAY.**

**SENATE.**  
Met at noon. Hays had a question argued before subcommittee on District bill. Interstate Commerce Committee works on trade commission bill. Radium hearing before Mines and Mining Committee. Resolution to compel Louisville and Nashville to produce files brought up.

**HOUSE.**  
Met at noon. Private pension bills considered. Agricultural appropriation bill completed. Immigration Committee held hearing on Hindu exclusion bill. Trust hearings continued.